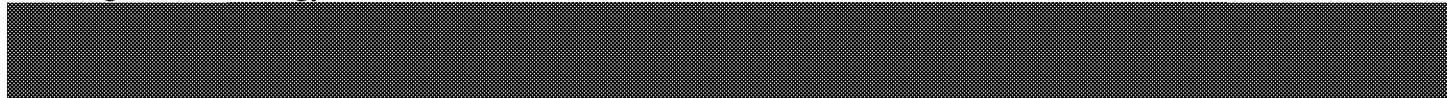


**From:** Morning Consult [reply@e.morningconsult.com]  
**Sent:** 2/12/2020 12:55:53 PM  
**To:** Quast, Sylvia [Quast.Sylvia@epa.gov]  
**Subject:** Morning Consult Energy: BP's New CEO Says Company Will Reach Net-Zero Emissions From Oil and Gas Production by 2050

Morning Consult Energy: WED 2/12



# M ENERGY

By Brian Yermal Jr.

## Top Stories

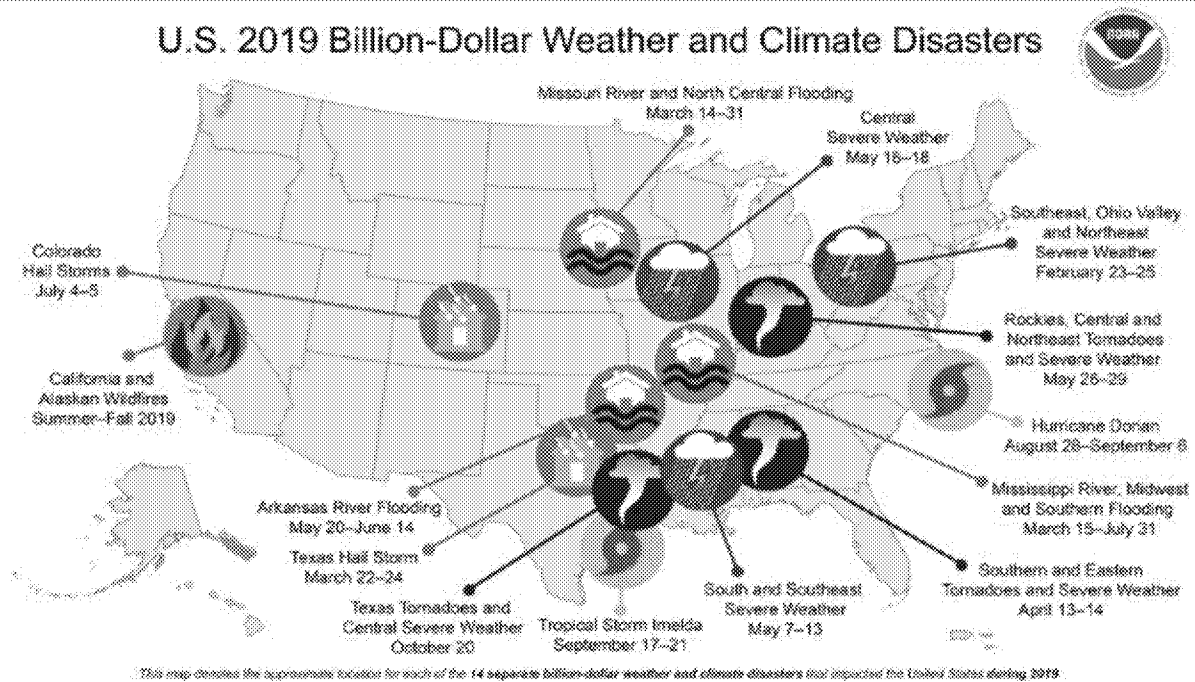
- BP PLC's new chief executive officer, Bernard Looney, said the company plans to achieve net-zero emissions from its oil and gas operations and production by 2050 or earlier and cut in half the carbon intensity of the products it sells by expanding its offerings of low- and no-carbon products. BP's operations currently emit about 55 millions tons of carbon dioxide annually, and its carbon content from oil and gas equals 360 million tons. (Bloomberg)
- The Virginia House and Senate passed energy legislation that puts the state's utilities on course to achieve 100 percent renewable generation, with the House bill setting that goal by 2045 and the Senate version aiming for 2050. Both versions of the legislation would virtually halt the construction of new fossil fuel facilities in the short term pending consideration of a permanent ban, with the House version containing a provision that would place a moratorium on new permits for such facilities by 2030 if state officials determine their emission reduction goals are not on target by 2028. ( The Associated Press)
- The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission is set to announce Thursday whether it will approve a certificate for Pembina Pipeline Corp. to construct its \$10 billion Jordan Cove Energy Project, which would include the first liquified natural gas export terminal

on the West Coast. The project, which could liquefy 7.5 million metric tons of gas annually, likely faces state and federal lawsuits if it is approved. (Bloomberg Environment)

## Chart Review

The next president can force the financial sector to take climate change seriously

Vox



Financial risks. | NCEI

## Events Calendar (All Times Local)

**02/12/2020**

Advanced Reactors Summit VII

19th Annual LNG Conference

National Ethanol Conference

National Association of State Energy Officials Microgrid In-Person Meeting

2020 Energy Storage Association Policy Forum

8:00  
am

House Science, Space and Technology Committee Markup of Several Energy-Related Bills

10:00  
am

House Energy and Commerce Committee's Energy Subcommittee Legislative Hearing Titled "Saving Energy: Legislation To Improve Energy Efficiency And Storage"

10:30  
am

House Armed Services Committee's Readiness Subcommittee Hearing Titled "Land Based Ranges: Building Military Readiness While Protecting Natural and Cultural Resources"

2:30  
pm

Columbia University Center on Global Energy Policy Event on New and Emerging Policies for Carbon Capture

6:00  
pm

## **02/13/2020**

19th Annual LNG Conference

National Association of State Energy Officials Microgrid In-Person Meeting

Release of 2020 Sustainable Energy in America Factbook Luncheon Briefing

12:00  
pm

Department of Energy's Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Event Titled "Comfort -- The Biggest Driver of Residential Energy Efficiency?"

1:00  
pm

Stanford University Environmental Forum on Natures, Peoples, and Justice: Collaborative Land Management Practice

3:30  
pm

## **02/14/2020**

19th Annual LNG Conference

**02/17/2020**

SmartEnergy Summit

[View full calendar](#)



## Special Report: The State of Consumer Trust

As the new decade begins, Morning Consult's **The State of Consumer Trust** report is the first look at how today's societal forces are shaping a new era of trust. Based on interviews with thousands of consumers, the report provides actionable intelligence into how companies can earn and deepen trust with customers.

[Download the full report.](#)

## General

### Ex-PG&E lawyer to take helm of Region 9

**Kevin Bogardus, E&E News**

A former top attorney for California utility giant Pacific Gas and Electric Co. will now lead EPA's operations in Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada and the Pacific Islands as well as 148 tribes. He takes the helm after the agency abruptly fired the prior regional administrator, Mike Stoker, from the post last week.

### EPA asked to justify proposal to limit power of its science advisers

**Rebecca Beitsch, The Hill**

An Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) proposal to limit what information is provided to its independent Science Advisory Board (SAB) is raising alarm bells with lawmakers, spurring a large information request from the House Science Committee.

### Senate Democrats Urge Grassley to Act on Energy Tax Bills

**Colin Wilhelm, Bloomberg Environment**

Senate Democrats are pressing Finance Chairman Chuck Grassley to hold a hearing on tax policies that would incentivize more low-emission energy usage.

### Senate bill requires US to reach net-zero carbon emissions by 2050

**Rebecca Beitsch, The Hill**

A group of mostly Democratic senators has introduced a bill that would require the U.S. to phase out carbon emissions by 2050, placing their faith almost entirely in the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to carry out the process.

### DOJ says environmental workload 'no longer sustainable'

**Pamela King, E&E News**

The Department of Justice has requested more money to protect the Trump administration's environmental rule changes during the last year of the president's term.

**Trump EPA's Adviser Policy in Legal Knot After Court Ruling**  
**Ellen M. Gilmer, Bloomberg Environment**

A court decision striking down the Trump administration's effort to limit who can serve on EPA advisory boards conflicts with other rulings and leaves open questions about the policy's future.

**A Rare Trump-Era Climate Policy Hits an Obstacle: The Tax Man**  
**Brad Plumer, The New York Times**

A rare policy enacted under President Trump to address climate change has run into an unexpected hurdle: the tax man.

**Oil Climbs Back Above \$50 Amid Signs Asia Virus Spread Is Easing**  
**Elizabeth Low and Grant Smith, Bloomberg**

Oil rallied back above \$50 a barrel as tentative signs that Asia's coronavirus may be easing spurred speculation that the worst of crude's sell-off could have passed.

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## **Oil and Natural Gas**

**Sale of Philadelphia refinery nears; foes vow long legal fight**  
**Laila Kearney, Reuters**

Opponents of Philadelphia Energy Solutions' bankruptcy plan have vowed a long legal fight if a federal court this week approves a sale that would keep the largest East Coast oil refinery permanently shut while paying out bonuses to company executives.

**DOE proposes to allow longer license period for non-FTA LNG exports**  
**Maya Weber, S&P Global Platts**

The US Department of Energy is offering to extend LNG export authorizations through 2050 in response to a request from Cheniere Energy.

From wind power to cow manure: oil traders seek new profit recipe

**Julia Payne, Reuters**

The world's largest oil traders are pouring hundreds of millions of dollars into climate-friendly projects - including wind farms, cow manure plants and blue hydrogen - as they seek to match the profits they make from trading oil.

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## **Utilities and Infrastructure**

Sell, manage or status quo? Report out on SC public utility

**Jeffrey Collins, The Associated Press**

South Carolina could pay off billions in debt and end uncertainty over lawsuits if it sells its state-owned utility, Santee Cooper, but the move would cost ratepayers more money over the next 20 years, state fiscal officials say in a newly released report.

PG&E Victim Uprising Could Blow Up Utility's Reorganization

**Steven Church, Bloomberg**

California Governor Gavin Newsom isn't the only potential obstacle facing PG&E Corp.'s plan to finish its bankruptcy case by June 30. Fire victims who blame the utility for their losses could also derail it.

FERC's Chatterjee casts doubt on state exodus from capacity markets

**Jasmin Melvin, S&P Global Platts**

Critics of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's sweeping changes to PJM Interconnection's capacity market should pump the brakes on rhetoric asserting a coming state exodus until auctions are held and the impacts on generators and consumers are better known, Chairman Neil Chatterjee told reporters Tuesday.

FirstEnergy CEO says he's ready to help Ohio lawmakers deal with FERC's PJM MOPR ruling

**John Funk, Utility Dive**

Ohio-based FirstEnergy Corp.'s chief executive officer says his company is ready to assist state lawmakers develop a new energy policy to deal, in part, with the impact of the December Federal Energy Regulatory Commission order directing PJM Interconnection to offset state subsidies

given to owners of certain generating resources, including renewables and nuclear plants.

**Dominion agrees to buy Southern stake in Atlantic Coast Pipeline as project costs soar**

**Harry Weber, S&P Global Platts**

Southern Company is out as an equity partner in the Atlantic Coast Pipeline after majority owner Dominion Energy agreed to buy its stake, amid ballooning costs and legal challenges that have stalled the 1.5 Bcf/d US Northeast natural gas project.

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## **Renewables**

**Shell, EDP Set Record-Low Price for U.S. Offshore Wind Power**  
**Christopher Martin, Bloomberg Environment**

Royal Dutch Shell Plc and EDP Renovaveis SA agreed to sell power from a wind farm they're building in the Atlantic Ocean for a record-low price.

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## **Coal**

**EIA expects 2020 US coal output to fall 13.7% on year: STEO**  
**Olivia Kalb, S&P Global Platts**

US coal production is forecast to be about 596 million st in 2020, down 13.7% from the estimated 2019 output of 690 million st, data from the Energy Information Administration's Short-Term Energy Outlook showed Tuesday.

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## **Nuclear**

**Nuclear a Major Focus in Trump's Latest Budget Request-and 8 Other Takeaways**  
**Power Magazine**

Yucca Mountain, the 1987 Congressionally appointed deep geologic repository for spent nuclear fuel (SNF), may be officially dead; transmission assets held by the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) and three Power Marketing Administrations (PMAs) will be put up for sale; and hundreds of millions of dollars in unobligated balances for flagship



programs like the Advanced Research Projects Agency-Energy (ARPA-E) will be canceled.

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## Climate

### GOP Edges Gingerly Toward Climate Plan After Sowing Doubt, Scorn

**Ari Natter, Bloomberg**

It's not quite the Green New Deal, but House Republicans will begin revealing on Wednesday their plan to combat climate change that comports with conservative principles of less regulation and increased domestic energy development.

### How a Trillion Trees Triumphed Over Trump's Climate Denialism

**Lisa Friedman, The New York Times**

People warned Marc Benioff, the billionaire chief executive of Salesforce, not to bother talking to the White House about global warming. But Mr. Benioff, a tech mogul and environmental philanthropist, felt sure he had found a climate change solution that even President Trump could love: Planting trees.

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## Opinions, Editorials and Perspectives

### Planting Trees Won't Save the World

**Erle C. Ellis et al., The New York Times**

The trillion-tree idea won wide attention last summer after a study published in the journal *Science* concluded that planting so many trees was "the most effective climate change solution to date." If only it were true.

### Rigging the System Against Clean Energy

**Martin Heinrich, Bloomberg**

Right before the holidays, Trump appointees on a federal commission you've probably never heard of gave a major gift to coal companies. They also threw a wrench into efforts at the state and local level to move the U.S. toward cleaner and cheaper sources of power.

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# Research Reports

## Global CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in 2019 **International Energy Agency**

Global energy-related CO<sub>2</sub> emissions flattened in 2019 at around 33 gigatonnes (Gt), following two years of increases. This resulted mainly from a sharp decline in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from the power sector in advanced economies, thanks to the expanding role of renewable sources (mainly wind and solar PV), fuel switching from coal to natural gas, and higher nuclear power output.



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